

Woodstock

VFW News

Winner of 15
National Publication
Awards

www.vfw5040.org

October 2003
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Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

From the Commander

By Jon Showers
Commander 2003-2004

Comrades, please be informed that our Bar Manager, Julie Cruz, has provided us with her two week advance notice on her employment with us. Julie's last day with us is October 7th and we all wish her the very best for the future. At the same time please stop in and say hello to our new Bar Manager, Jacque Hollander. She has promised the staff that our Post will be "the place to visit" in Woodstock.

Also, at some point in the future we will be providing tickets (**FREE**) occasionally during the Wednesday and Friday night dinners that will qualify you for **CASH** and other **PRIZES** for that evenings drawing. You may see us advertise the drawing in this newsletter, post it on our bulletin board at the Post Hall or make it a complete surprise with no advance warning, so come on down and bring your friends and neighbors and get in on the **FUN!!**

Herbert Franks Published in Alumni Magazine

By Don Peasley

Herbert Franks, Marengo attorney, is the subject of a feature article in the summer issue of Roosevelt University's alumni magazine. Franks, 1954 Roosevelt University graduate, lives on the farm purchased by his father 70 years ago. His law office is at that location on U.S. Route 20 in Marengo.

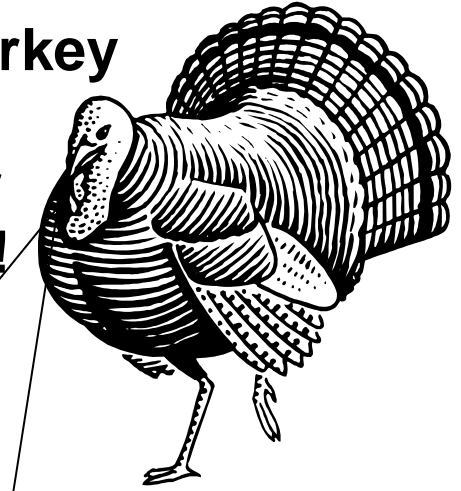
Franks majored in business administration. While working in Washington, D.C. he attended law school at night at American University. He earned his law degree in 1960. After serving in the Army he started a law firm at Rockford with a classmate from American University.

Franks was drafted August 1, 1956. He attended Basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. While there, he met his wife; her twin sister was married to a man in Herbs' platoon. His title was assistant platoon leader. (He did ROTC in college.) After being stationed at Fort Rucker, Alabama, he transferred to the military district of Washington D.C. where he ran a warehouse. He came out an E-5. Though his military career lasted two years, during that time he did temporary duty to help open up the 1958 World's Fair in Brussels.

Franks established his own law firm in Marengo in the late 1960s. In 2000, he was elected president of the

See **Franks**, page 3.

Annual Turkey Raffle November 22nd, 2003!



This is a reminder to all our members, friends and neighbors that our Annual Turkey Raffle and Dinner will be held on November 22nd and this year's prizes will be bountiful (to include turkeys, other meats and paddle wheel prizes galore). **Tickets will be on sale down at the Post or call 338-5040** to reserve your tickets to sell and help us raise funds for the VFW. This is one of our biggest fund raisers so your support is very important. Thank you!

Representative from IDVA to Visit Post on October 20th

October 1, 2003

Dear Fellow Veterans,

We need your help. Remember 10 or 20 years ago when you didn't need VA health care benefits, but you need it now! If you had registered with the VA 6 or 7 years ago, all would have benefits now.

My name is Ted Biever and I work for the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs here in Woodstock and am a life member of the VFW, DAV, Marine Corps Association, 3rd Marine Division Association, Vietnow and the Khe Sanh veterans. I would like to attend your meeting October 20th to talk and hopefully register Vets for Health Care Benefits.

Please bring your DD-214 or report of separation papers (a copy), you and your spouse's income for last year and their social security number.

Hope to see everyone October 20th. Remember we are strong as one.

Vet Helping Vet,
Ted Biever

VFW Post 5040 - Post Officers 2003 - 2004

Commander	Jon Showers	(815)-338-4675
Senior Vice Commander	Sid Sherwin	(815)-338-5573
Junior Vice Commander	John (Sully) Sullivan	(815)-653-3298
Quartermaster	Thom Gillespie	(815)-597-1319
Chaplain	Howard Engstrom	(815)-338-4453
Assistant Chaplain	Charles Mansfield	Not Available
Service Officer	Ron Nehls	(815)-338-3671
Judge Advocate	Henry (Hank) Enstrom	(815)-337-5856
Post Surgeon	Harold Irwin	(815)-338-1264
Officer-of-the-Day	Bruce Shisler	(815)-338-4735
1 Year Trustee	Alan Belcher	(815)-338-7689
2 Year Trustee	Henry Nulle	(815)-337-7529
3 Year Trustee	Bill Lyford	(815)-337-0025

VFW Post 5040 Ladies Auxiliary Post Officers 2003 - 2004

President	Nyda Fogarty	(815)-338-1759
Senior Vice President	Bonnie Kagel	(815)-648-4958
Junior Vice	Viola Brown	(815)-338-1446
Secretary	Christine Gehrke	(815)-338-3533
Treasurer	Barbara Gehrke	(815)-338-1546
Chaplain	Karen Wells	(815)-338-4821
Guard	Rosemary Hellstern	(815)-338-0653
Conductress	Irene Brown	(815)-459-3483
1 Year Trustee	Ruth Gehrke	(815)-338-5093
2 Year Trustee	Margaret Webb	Not Available
3 Year Trustee	Geraldine Salyers	Not Available

Woodstock VFW News is published monthly by Woodstock VFW Post 5040, 240 Throop Street, Woodstock, IL 60098. (815)-338-5040

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Woodstock VFW Post 5040, c/o VFW News Editor, 240 Throop Street, Woodstock, IL 60098.

Three Post Members Serving the 5th District Again

By Dwayne Raney

The following Post 5040 members are serving on the 2003-2004 staff of 5th VFW District Commander Raymond J. Bachewicz .

James W. "Jim" Johnson is again the adjutant, having serving several years in this position.

Alan Belcher, past Post 5040 Commander, continues as the chairman of the Homeless Veterans Committee.

Dwayne E. Raney, also a Past Post 5040 Commander, is this year's Employment Officer. Last year Raney co-chaired the UPLINK/MAP Committees on Walter T. Michalski's staff.

Next VFW 5th District will be November 9th, at the Winthrop Harbor Post #7448, with a 12:00 noon luncheon followed by the business session at 1:30 p.m.

All Post 5040 members are urged to attend any and all district meeting.

VFW Grand Drawing

Don't forget, the \$1550 raffle will be taking place on October 11, 2003. First prize to be awarded is \$1550. Come on out, see who wins (could be you), and visit with friends. Hope to see you there at 7:00 pm.

From the Editor's Desk...

By Matt Klos

I cannot believe it's October already. Where has the time gone? I have not been down to the post since sometime in June; kind of hard to attend the meeting being in Maryland each week still. Our website still has August's calendar on it. Yes, I have been really behind, and even this newsletter is late getting out to you all. The sad part is that the holiday's are right around the corner, with Halloween kicking thing's off at the end of the month.

As we begin to roll into the holiday season next month, we must remember November 11th, the 50th anniversary of Veterans day. This is the second Tuesday of November. Check out this website for more info:

<http://www.appc1.va.gov/vetsday/>

One More Correction on Post Chaplains

Last month, Ken Kerns had sent a letter indicating that in 1954, Ted Bates had been Chaplain for that year.

However, I received an e-mail from Chuck Mansfield who now lives in Wisconsin. He indicated that he was Post Chaplain in 1954.

Thanks for the email Chuck and glad you liked the web-site.



Chaplains Report

By Howard Engstrom

Nursing Home Visits:

Delmar Heidenreich - Valley Hi
Otis Setser - Valley Hi
Bob Wasberg - Fountains

Home and Phone Visits:

Wilbur Keifer
Ed Henry Family
John Blaine
Clarence Peters
Leon Rahn
Joe Sokolski

Cards Sent:

Art Stolzke
Don Sullivan
Ed Henry - Deceased
Harold Knutson - Deceased
Elwood Sherwin - Belvedere (Nursing Home Northwood)
Elwood "Red" Sherwin - Funeral wake and family visit in Marengo

Funeral Watch (Wake)

Dr. John Lindsey & visit with family

Draping of Altar at August Meeting

Robert Bishop
Salvadore Cassata
Garnet Glass
Laurence Porter

Prayer for unity in our Post. Remember the families of our deceased comrades and the families of the 9/11 tragedy. Continue to pray for our comrades in Iraq and Afghanistan.



**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!
TRICK OR TREAT!!!**

Legion to Erect Memorial

By Don Peasley

Woodstock American Legion members anticipate final approval from the Woodstock City Council to erect a memorial on the Woodstock City Square honoring veterans of all wars.

The Woodstock Parks & Recreation Commission gave its approval during its August 11 meeting. The Woodstock Historical Preservation Commission added its approval in early September, and the Woodstock City Council gave unanimous support in late September.

Jack Reinert, retired Chicago policeman who has served as Commander of the Peter Umathum Post 412 since coming to Woodstock about seven years ago, proposed the bronze tablet at an American Legion meeting earlier this year.

He said the plaque placed in the Square by the Woodstock VFW in 1996 is an appropriate memorial but honors only those veterans who served overseas. Said Reinert, "The American Legion Memorial will state: 'This memorial honors all American veterans who, although separated by generations, shared a common goal—to protect our country's freedoms.'"

Jim and Tony Zoia of the Zoia Monument Company will place the bronze plaque on a granite foundation to the south and east of the Civil War Memorial. The granite memorial will be 24 inches wide, 18 inches high and 10 inches deep. The bronze plaque will be 20- by 20-inches. Founders of the Zoia Monument Company erected the Civil War statue in 1909. Jim and Tony Zoia erected the VFW Memorial northeast of the Civil War statue on Memorial Day 1996.

Franks, continued from page 1.

Illinois State Bar Association by its members.

Franks is quick to credit his firm's success to "surrounding myself with outstanding associates." Marilyn Belin has been his office manager for 37 years; Maria Gudino, bookkeeper, has been with the law firm for 25 years.

Herb's son Jack is Illinois State Representative for the 63rd District.

Ladies Auxiliary From the President

By Nyda Fogarty
President 2003-2004

Once again we have lost another long time member of the Auxiliary. Louise Tomaselli passed away in August. Louise served for many years as an election Judge in Dorr 9 precinct. She was a very friendly and outgoing person. There was a very interesting article about her with her obituary in the Chicago Tribune.

A very nice District Kickoff Dinner was held on Saturday, September 27th in Lake Villa which Karen Wells and I attended. Our new District President, Mary West from Elgin Post #1307 was at our meeting in October for our annual inspection.

On September 24th, the Auxiliary had a dinner for me at the Post as the President last year. Barb Gehrke was the Chairman and did a magnificent job. I thank all who were present and everyone who donated toward my gift. I appreciate it very much.

Plans have been made for our annual Teacher's Tea which will be held on Thursday, November 20th at 4:00 p.m. I have secured the Marian Central Jazz Band for the entertainment. They are really wonderful; they played for this event previously. We would like any member of the Auxiliary to donate cookies or cash instead to help out with this annual tribute to our teachers in the city of Woodstock. We serve punch, finger sandwiches, cookies, coffee and tea. The Teacher selected receives an engraved pin.

Plans were made also at our last meeting for the Christmas party which will be on December 4th. The Auxiliary will furnish meat and everyone is asked to please bring a dish to pass. If your dues are paid by this date and you are present you will be eligible for the drawing for free dues for next year (three will be given). Viola Brown will be the Chairman for the party. Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Don't forget to get those dues paid of \$15.00. Notices from the National will be a reminder. Send payment to our Treasurer, Barb Gehrke, at 846 Wicker St. Woodstock, IL 60098.

Visit our web site: www.vfw5040.org

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Letters to the Editor...

If you would like to send a letter to the editor, please send it to the following address (do not send it to the post address):



Matt Klos
VFW 5040 News Editor
259 Dartmoor Dr.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815)-479-8842

And for those of you with access to the internet, you can e-mail me at:

matt.klos@vfw5040.org

Visit our Post Website:
www.vfw5040.org

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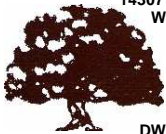
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